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| FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 | |
| <u>EL 997254645 US</u> | <u>November 6, 2003</u> |
| Express Mail Label Number | Date of Deposit |

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

BILLSTEIN ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: Not Yet Assigned

FILED: Herewith

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMBINATIONS AND THEIR USE IN
TREATING GASTROINTESTINAL AND ABDOMINAL VISCERA
DISORDERS

Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of May 6, 2003 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on August 6, 2003.
 A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$950 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Wildman
 Attorney for Applicants
 Reg. No. 40,226
 Phone No. (862) 778-7954

Novartis
 Corporate Intellectual Property
 One Health Plaza, Building 430
 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: November 6, 2003